



STINGER SPORTS

PRESS RELEASE

December 1, 1980

The 15th Annual Pepsi Centennial Men's Basketball tournament will take place at the Concordia Athletic Complex, 7200 Sherbrooke St. West this weekend, with a pair of doubleheaders slated for Friday night and Saturday afternoon. The action gets underway at 7 p.m. Friday as the powerful York Yeomen face the McGill Redmen. The host Concordia Stingers will meet the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks at 9 p.m. with the tournament consolation and championship games slated for 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Doug Daigneault's Stingers are looking to defend the title they won last year, but will have to do it without the services of all-star guard Doug Whaley, last year's Most Valuable Player. Whaley suffered four fractured bones in his mouth and lost four teeth two weeks ago in the York Tournament and will be watching from the sidelines this weekend.

The Stingers now have a 7-4 record following a one win - one loss performance in the Guelph Invitational this past weekend. Concordia dropped a 75-62 decision to York Friday night despite a 31 point performance by Gary McKeigan. They came back on Saturday against the Laurentian Voyageurs 83-59 behind McKeigan's 27 points. McKeigan was named to the tournament's All-Star team, the third time this year he has been so honored.

Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks making their third tournament appearance possess good size and speed. They are paced by veterans Leon Arendse and Bob Fitzgerald. Asendre, a 6'5 forward is the team's top scorer with a 24.5 average, while Fitzgerald has contributed 20 points and 13 rebounds per game. Coach, Don Smith also has several promising freshmen led by guard, Peter Briglio and centre David Byck.

McGill coach, Butch Staples has assembled a fine blend of experienced veterans and promising newcomers that will become better with each contest. League All-Star Rick Rusk, forward Mark Adilman and Mike Homsy join highly touted freshmen Willie Hinz and Ron Penston to give the Redmen a solid nucleus. Add quarterback Gordie Brabant who returns after a year's absence and McGill has the makings of a league and national contender.

At first look, Bob Bain's Yeomen appear to be a team without deficiencies. Their roster includes eight veterans from the team that finished fifth and third in the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union National Championships the past two years. The club is paced by a pair of All-Canadians, David Coulthard and Bo Pelech, as well as league all-star Paul Jones and Peter Greenway (a 1978 Centennial Tournament All-Star). Add rookies John Christensen, 6'9; Stan Hamstra, 6'8; Donovan Lawrence, 6'5; and guard Mark Jones and one can understand why many predict that York will take it all this season.

MH/th